

EYE GROUNDING CONTROLLER

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NO PRIOR FILING BENEFIT IS CLAIMED

THIS INVENTION DID NOT INVOLVE ANY FEDERAL SPONSORSHIP

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to providing a means to lift a temporary conductor into place and reducing the end terminations tendency to cam off the intended position while the clamping means of the temporary conductor is closed or opened. This invention also provides for the use of a common extendable stick that can be practically used for long reaches and especially to reach from the ground. The most common use of a temporary conductor in power distribution maintenance is safety grounding power lines together with a grounding set. Current practices include the use of Shot Gun Stick™ which attaches to the screw portion of a clamp of the grounding set to lift and place it on a power line. The weight of the means used to lift the grounding set and the limitation of the practical reach length generally requires the lineman to climb the power pole use a lift on a truck.

U.S. Patent 1,712,067 filed by Bodendieck in 1926 is an early example of a clamp for a temporary conductor used in power transmission services. 067 does provide a ring to lift the clamp into place but does not provide an effective means to resist camming off the placement when the screw is manipulated.

U.S. Patent 1,949,646 filed by Dibner in 1928 details a modification to the screw of the clamp however it requires a special end attachment to the lifting pole. The connection of the pole to the clamp requires a precise alignment which would be awkward if the clamp moves out of its original alignment relative to the position it was installed.

U.S. Patent 1,934,126 filed by Johnson in 1926 also provides a unique method to attach a lifting pole to the clamp. Likewise it requires a special end attachment for the lifting pole and any shift in the position of the clamp from its original position would greatly increase the difficulty of reattaching the pole to unclamp. The position of the clamp could be effected by the weight of the grounding set in a twisting action on power line it is attached to.

U.S. Patent 2,009,289 filed by Caird in 1932 attempted to provide stability to the clamp by use of spring action against the power line while the clamp is being manipulated. The spring extending on both sides would only provide its maximum resistance to camming off just before the clamp jaw actually seats against the power line. This design does not appear in currently available grounding sets.

U.S. Patent 2,095,137 filed by Johnson in 1935 again requires a specialized lifting pole. The exposed hook may have allowed greater misalignment of the clamp from its original position. However the entire lifting pole is part of the mechanism which does not tend to lend itself to adjustable length and would probably be too heavy for long reaches.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This invention preferred embodiment is a bracket assembly that is adapted to be retro fitted onto clamps of grounding sets to provide an eye to lift the grounding set by and an anti-torque arm to resist the natural tendency of the clamp to cam off a power line while the clamp screw is being turned. The eye and the anti-torque arm may be incorporated into the clamp design in its original production.

This inventions greatest benefit is realized by allowing the use of a lightweight pole to position a grounding set on a power line by a lineman from the ground level. Grounding set as used by lineman in maintenance of power distribution system consists of an assembly of at least one length of flexible cable and a termination at each end. The end terminations usually consist of an adapted C clamp which can be placed over a power and closed on it to provide a conductive path. It is a very critical safety procedure to ground power lines when work being preformed requires the lineman to come in contact with or in close proximity to power lines which generally are bare. The grounding set may have end terminations specially adapted to attach to objects other than power lines.

The ability to lift, place and manipulate the clamping means of a grounding set on a power line from ground level allows the lineman to ground power lines in remote areas difficult to move a truck to and the lineman may be able to avoid climbing damaged poles would greatly enhance safety. It is therefore the most important object of this invention to provide a resistance to the tendency of the clamp to cam off the power line and accommodate the use a light long reach extension stick for positioning and manipulating the clamps of grounding sets. The invention may be adapted to specialized ground set terminations for unique attach points.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a side view of the bracket body;

FIG. 2 is a top view of the bracket body;

FIG. 3 is a side view of the anti torque arm;

FIG. 4 is a top view of the anti-torque arm;

FIG. 5 is a side view of the bracket assembly;

FIG. 6 is a top view of the bracket assembly;

FIG. 7 is a side view of a ground set clamp;

FIG. 8 is a top view of a ground set clamp;

FIG. 9 is a side view of bracket assembly attached to a grounding set clamp;

FIG. 10 is a top view of bracket assembly attached to grounding set clamp;

FIG. 11 is a side view of an extension stick;

FIG. 12 is a top view of a grounding set clamp attached to a power line with a L hook attachment on an extension stick engaged in the eye of an Eye Grounding bracket; and

FIG. 13 is a top view of a grounding set clamp attached to a power line with a L hook attachment on an extension stick engaged in the eye of an Eye Grounding bracket.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 shows a side view of the bracket body 1. The first aperture 3 is located in first end 2 and is adaptive to receive L hook 38 (FIG. 11) of an extension stick 29 (FIG. 11). The second aperture 5 is located in the second end 4 and is adaptive to receive the cable bolt 25 (FIG. 6). The third aperture 7 is adaptive to receive bolt 13 (FIG. 5). Middle region 6 is formed to index first end 2 approximately ninety degrees relative to second end 4.

FIG. 2 shows a top view of the bracket body 1. The respective features 2 through 7 are also shown.

FIG. 3 shows a side view of anti-torque arm 8. The arm first end 9 is formed to receive bolt 13 (FIG. 5). The arm second end 10 is formed to engage power line 39 (FIG. 15). The arm length 11 is formed to extend arm second end 10 away from clamp body 19 (FIG. 7) and in line with fixed jaw 20 (FIG. 7).

FIG. 4 shows a top view of anti-torque arm 8. The respective features 9 through 11 are also shown.

FIG. 5 shows a side view of bracket assembly 12. Bolt 13 passes through flat washer 14, anti-torque arm 8, and lock washer 15. Nut 16 is fastened to bolt 13.

FIG. 6 shows a top view of bracket assembly 12. The respective features 13 through 16 are also shown.

FIG. 7 shows a side view of one clamp 19 of grounding set 17 which has major components of clamp 19 and cable 24 and another clamp 19 at the other end of cable 24. The length of cable 24 and another clamp 19 are omitted from the figure as redundant. Screw eye 23 is rotated to advance or retract screw 22 which acts on movable jaw 21. Fixed jaw 20 is an integral part of clamp body 19 which also accepts cable bolt 25. Cable bolt 25 is held in position in clamp body 19 by lock nut 26. Cable end fitting 28 is screwed on to cable bolt 25 and is secured by holding nut 27.

FIG. 8 shows a top view of clamp 19 and cable bolt 25.

FIG. 9 shows a top view of bracket assembly 12 attached to clamp 19 by cable bolt 25. Anti-torque arm 8 is aligned with fixed jaw 20.

FIG. 10 shows a side view of bracket assembly 12 attached to clamp 19. Anti-torque arm 8 extends away from clamp 19.

FIG. 11 shows a side view of extension stick 29. Stick joint 30, 31, 32 and 33 are extended and locked into place by lock 34, 35 and 36 respectively. Manipulating end 37 has attachment L hook 38 fitted to it.

FIG. 12 shows a top view of clamp 19 positioned on power line 39. Anti-torque arm 8 engages power line 39. L hook 38 engages first aperture 3 of bracket assembly 12 which allows grounding set 17 (FIG. 7) to be lifted by the manipulating end 37 of extension stick 29.

FIG. 13 shows a top view of clamp 19 positioned on power line 39. Anti-torque arm 8 engages power line 39. L hook 38 engages first aperture 3 of bracket assembly 12 which allows grounding set 17 (FIG. 7) to be lifted by the manipulating end 37 of extension stick 29.

The preferred embodiment of this invention has been portrayed in the description and drawings and is not intended as a limitation on other adaptations of this invention. Those skilled in the art can envision various adaptations of this invention to accommodate other conductor terminations both temporary and permanent which would benefit from the use of this invention.